

Appl. No.: 09/882,834
Amdt. dated 10/06/2004
Reply to Office action of September 7, 2004

REMARKS

This is in response to the Official Action dated September 7, 2004, in which the Examiner has required restriction between Group I, namely Claims 1-20, and Group II, namely Claims 21-58. In response, Applicants hereby provisionally elect with traverse to prosecute the claims of Group I (Claims 1-20) and expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining claims.

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CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

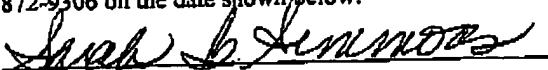


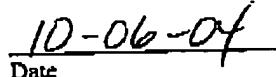
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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below.


Sarah B. Simmons


Date